

transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Standard Instrument Approach Procedures (92); Amdt. No. 3368" (RIN2120-AA65) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 7, 2010; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. LIEBERMAN, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 736. A bill to provide for improvements in the Federal hiring process and for other purposes (Rept. No. 111-184).

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. AKAKA:

S. 3348. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for the treatment of documents that express disagreement with decisions of the Board of Veterans' Appeals and that are misfiled with the Board within 120 days of such decisions as motions for reconsideration of such decisions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. BROWN of Ohio (for himself and Mr. SCHUMER):

S. 3349. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the nonbusiness energy property credit to include insulated siding; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BINGAMAN (for himself and Mr. CRAPO):

S. 3350. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently modify the limitations on deduction of interest by financial institutions which hold tax-exempt bonds, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. LEVIN:

S. 3351. A bill for the relief of Marco Antonio Sanchez; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. TESTER:

S. 3352. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to exempt reimbursements of expenses related to accident, theft, loss, or casualty loss from determinations of annual income with respect to pensions for veterans and surviving spouses and children of veterans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. LAUTENBERG (for himself, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. MENENDEZ, and Mr. BURRIS):

S. 3353. A bill to provide grants for juvenile mentoring; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. COCHRAN:

S. 3354. A bill to redesignate the North Mississippi National Wildlife Refuges Complex as the Sam D. Hamilton North Mississippi National Wildlife Refuges Complex; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself, Mr. JOHANNIS, and Mrs. MURRAY):

S. 3355. A bill to provide for an Internet website for information on benefits, resource, services, and opportunities for veterans and their families and caregivers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mrs. MURRAY (for herself and Ms. CANTWELL):

S. Res. 521. A resolution commemorating and celebrating the lives of Deputy Sheriff Stephen Michael Gallagher, Jr., Officer Timothy Q. Brenton, Officer Tina G. Griswold, Officer Ronald Wilbur Owens II, Sergeant Mark Joseph Renninger, Officer Gregory James Richards, and Deputy Sheriff Walter Kent Mundell, Jr. who gave their lives in the service of the people of Washington State in 2009; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BURRIS (for himself, Ms. SNOWE, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. DURBIN, and Mr. JOHANNIS):

S. Res. 522. A resolution recognizing National Nurses Week; considered and agreed to.

By Ms. LANDRIEU (for herself, Mr. WICKER, Mr. SHELBY, Mr. VITTER, Mrs. HUTCHISON, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. BINGAMAN, Ms. MURKOWSKI, and Mr. NELSON of Florida):

S. Res. 523. A resolution honoring the crew members who perished aboard the off-shore oil rig, Deepwater Horizon, and extending the condolences of the Senate to the families and loved ones of the deceased crew members; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 565

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. HARKIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 565, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide continued entitlement to coverage for immunosuppressive drugs furnished to beneficiaries under the Medicare Program that have received a kidney transplant and whose entitlement to coverage would otherwise expire, and for other purposes.

S. 584

At the request of Mr. HARKIN, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. FRANKEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 584, a bill to ensure that all users of the transportation system, including pedestrians, bicyclists, transit users, children, older individuals, and individuals with disabilities, are able to travel safely and conveniently on and across federally funded streets and highways.

S. 616

At the request of Mr. HARKIN, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 616, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize medical simulation enhancement programs, and for other purposes.

S. 987

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. SPECTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 987, a bill to protect girls in developing countries through the prevention of child marriage, and for other purposes.

S. 1019

At the request of Mr. HARKIN, the name of the Senator from New Jersey

(Mr. MENENDEZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1019, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a credit against income tax for the purchase of hearing aids.

S. 1157

At the request of Mr. CONRAD, the name of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. NELSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1157, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to protect and preserve access of Medicare beneficiaries in rural areas to health care providers under the Medicare program, and for other purposes.

S. 1233

At the request of Ms. LANDRIEU, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. BURRIS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1233, a bill to reauthorize and improve the SBIR and STTR programs and for other purposes.

S. 1334

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1334, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to extend and improve protections and services to individuals directly impacted by the terrorist attack in New York City on September 11, 2001, and for other purposes.

S. 1551

At the request of Mr. SPECTER, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1551, a bill to amend section 20 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to allow for a private civil action against a person that provides substantial assistance in violation of such Act.

S. 2736

At the request of Mr. FRANKEN, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BURR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2736, a bill to reduce the rape kit backlog and for other purposes.

S. 2847

At the request of Mr. WHITEHOUSE, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. ROCKEFELLER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2847, a bill to regulate the volume of audio on commercials.

S. 2920

At the request of Mr. LAUTENBERG, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2920, a bill to amend chapter 1 of title 23, United States Code, to condition the receipt of certain highway funding by States on the enactment and enforcement by States of certain laws to prevent repeat intoxicated driving.

S. 2989

At the request of Ms. LANDRIEU, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. BURRIS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2989, a bill to improve the Small Business Act, and for other purposes.

S. 3036

At the request of Mr. BAYH, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) was added as a cosponsor of S.

3036, a bill to establish the Office of the National Alzheimer's Project.

S. 3058

At the request of Mr. DORGAN, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. UDALL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3058, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize the special diabetes programs for Type I diabetes and Indians under that Act.

S. 3073

At the request of Mr. LEVIN, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3073, a bill to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to protect and restore the Great Lakes.

S. 3086

At the request of Mr. DODD, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3086, a bill to support high-achieving, educationally disadvantaged elementary school students in high-need local educational agencies, and for other purposes.

S. 3102

At the request of Mr. MERKLEY, the names of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. HARKIN) and the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. BINGAMAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 3102, a bill to amend the miscellaneous rural development provisions of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to make loans to certain entities that will use the funds to make loans to consumers to implement energy efficiency measures involving structural improvements and investments in cost-effective, commercial off-the-shelf technologies to reduce home energy use.

S. 3109

At the request of Mr. BAUCUS, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3109, a bill to require the Secretary of the Army to conduct levee system evaluations and certifications on receipt of requests from non-Federal interests.

S. 3165

At the request of Ms. LANDRIEU, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. BURRIS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3165, a bill to authorize the Administrator of the Small Business Administration to waive the non-Federal share requirement under certain programs.

S. 3231

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3231, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend certain tax incentives for alcohol used as fuel and to amend the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States to extend additional duties on ethanol.

S. 3305

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3305, a bill to amend the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 to require oil

polluters to pay the full cost of oil spills, and for other purposes.

S. 3306

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3306, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to require polluters to pay the full cost of oil spills, and for other purposes.

S. 3335

At the request of Mr. COBURN, the names of the Senator from Missouri (Mrs. MCCASKILL), the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON), the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER), the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN), the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS) and the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. DEMINT) were added as cosponsors of S. 3335, a bill to require Congress to establish a unified and searchable database on a public website for congressional earmarks as called for by the President in his 2010 State of the Union Address to Congress.

S. 3344

At the request of Mr. WHITEHOUSE, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. NELSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3344, a bill to establish an independent, nonpartisan commission to investigate the causes and impact of, and evaluate and improve the response to, the explosion, fire, and loss of life on and sinking of the Mobile Drilling Unit Deepwater Horizon and the resulting uncontrolled release of crude oil into the Gulf of Mexico, and to ensure that a similar disaster is not repeated.

S. 3345

At the request of Mr. WHITEHOUSE, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3345, a bill to amend title 46, United States Code, to remove the cap on punitive damages established by the Supreme Court in *Exxon Shipping Company v. Baker*.

S. 3346

At the request of Mr. WHITEHOUSE, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3346, a bill to increase the limits on liability under the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act.

S.J. RES. 30

At the request of Mr. ISAKSON, the names of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. VITTER) and the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. MCCONNELL) were added as cosponsors of S.J. Res. 30, a joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the National Mediation Board relating to representation election procedures.

S. RES. 411

At the request of Mrs. LINCOLN, the names of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER) and the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 411, a resolution recognizing the importance and sustainability of the United States

hardwoods industry and urging that United States hardwoods and the products derived from United States hardwoods be given full consideration in any program to promote construction of environmentally preferable commercial, public, or private buildings.

AMENDMENT NO. 3748

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the names of the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. BUNNING), the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) and the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 3748 intended to be proposed to S. 3217, an original bill to promote the financial stability of the United States by improving accountability and transparency in the financial system, to end "too big to fail", to protect the American taxpayer by ending bailouts, to protect consumers from abusive financial services practices, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 3804

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. BURRIS) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 3804 intended to be proposed to S. 3217, an original bill to promote the financial stability of the United States by improving accountability and transparency in the financial system, to end "too big to fail", to protect the American taxpayer by ending bailouts, to protect consumers from abusive financial services practices, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 3837

At the request of Mr. CORKER, the name of the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. ENZI) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 3837 intended to be proposed to S. 3217, an original bill to promote the financial stability of the United States by improving accountability and transparency in the financial system, to end "too big to fail", to protect the American taxpayer by ending bailouts, to protect consumers from abusive financial services practices, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 3838

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the name of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. NELSON) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 3838 intended to be proposed to S. 3217, an original bill to promote the financial stability of the United States by improving accountability and transparency in the financial system, to end "too big to fail", to protect the American taxpayer by ending bailouts, to protect consumers from abusive financial services practices, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 3841

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. BURRIS) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 3841 intended to be proposed to S. 3217, an original bill to promote the financial stability of the United States by improving accountability and transparency in the financial system, to end "too big to fail", to protect the American taxpayer by ending bailouts, to protect consumers

from abusive financial services practices, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 3845

At the request of Mr. KAUFMAN, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 3845 intended to be proposed to S. 3217, an original bill to promote the financial stability of the United States by improving accountability and transparency in the financial system, to end "too big to fail", to protect the American taxpayer by ending bailouts, to protect consumers from abusive financial services practices, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 3870

At the request of Mr. KERRY, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 3870 intended to be proposed to S. 3217, an original bill to promote the financial stability of the United States by improving accountability and transparency in the financial system, to end "too big to fail", to protect the American taxpayer by ending bailouts, to protect consumers from abusive financial services practices, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 3877

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. BURRIS) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 3877 intended to be proposed to S. 3217, an original bill to promote the financial stability of the United States by improving accountability and transparency in the financial system, to end "too big to fail", to protect the American taxpayer by ending bailouts, to protect consumers from abusive financial services practices, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 3896

At the request of Mr. GREGG, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 3896 intended to be proposed to S. 3217, an original bill to promote the financial stability of the United States by improving accountability and transparency in the financial system, to end "too big to fail", to protect the American taxpayer by ending bailouts, to protect consumers from abusive financial services practices, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 3897

At the request of Mr. DORGAN, the name of the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 3897 intended to be proposed to S. 3217, an original bill to promote the financial stability of the United States by improving accountability and transparency in the financial system, to end "too big to fail", to protect the American taxpayer by ending bailouts, to protect consumers from abusive financial services practices, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 3918

At the request of Ms. SNOWE, the names of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) and the Senator

from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 3918 proposed to S. 3217, an original bill to promote the financial stability of the United States by improving accountability and transparency in the financial system, to end "too big to fail", to protect the American taxpayer by ending bailouts, to protect consumers from abusive financial services practices, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 3920

At the request of Mr. HARKIN, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 3920 intended to be proposed to S. 3217, an original bill to promote the financial stability of the United States by improving accountability and transparency in the financial system, to end "too big to fail", to protect the American taxpayer by ending bailouts, to protect consumers from abusive financial services practices, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 3931

At the request of Mr. MERKLEY, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. HARKIN) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 3931 intended to be proposed to S. 3217, an original bill to promote the financial stability of the United States by improving accountability and transparency in the financial system, to end "too big to fail", to protect the American taxpayer by ending bailouts, to protect consumers from abusive financial services practices, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 3939

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 3939 intended to be proposed to S. 3217, an original bill to promote the financial stability of the United States by improving accountability and transparency in the financial system, to end "too big to fail", to protect the American taxpayer by ending bailouts, to protect consumers from abusive financial services practices, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 3949

At the request of Mr. CARPER, the names of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS), the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE), the Senator from Ohio (Mr. VOINOVICH), the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER), the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. ENZI) and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 3949 intended to be proposed to S. 3217, an original bill to promote the financial stability of the United States by improving accountability and transparency in the financial system, to end "too big to fail", to protect the American taxpayer by ending bailouts, to protect consumers from abusive financial services practices, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 3956

At the request of Ms. LANDRIEU, the names of the Senator from Montana

(Mr. TESTER), the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BURR), the Senator from Texas (Mrs. HUTCHISON) and the Senator from Illinois (Mr. BURRIS) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 3956 proposed to S. 3217, an original bill to promote the financial stability of the United States by improving accountability and transparency in the financial system, to end "too big to fail", to protect the American taxpayer by ending bailouts, to protect consumers from abusive financial services practices, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mrs. LINCOLN, her name was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 3956 proposed to S. 3217, *supra*.

At the request of Mr. LEVIN, his name was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 3956 proposed to S. 3217, *supra*.

At the request of Mr. ISAKSON, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 3956 proposed to S. 3217, *supra*.

AMENDMENT NO. 3958

At the request of Mr. REED, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 3958 intended to be proposed to S. 3217, an original bill to promote the financial stability of the United States by improving accountability and transparency in the financial system, to end "too big to fail", to protect the American taxpayer by ending bailouts, to protect consumers from abusive financial services practices, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 3970

At the request of Mr. LEVIN, the names of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED) and the Senator from Florida (Mr. NELSON) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 3970 intended to be proposed to S. 3217, an original bill to promote the financial stability of the United States by improving accountability and transparency in the financial system, to end "too big to fail", to protect the American taxpayer by ending bailouts, to protect consumers from abusive financial services practices, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 3971

At the request of Mr. LEVIN, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 3971 intended to be proposed to S. 3217, an original bill to promote the financial stability of the United States by improving accountability and transparency in the financial system, to end "too big to fail", to protect the American taxpayer by ending bailouts, to protect consumers from abusive financial services practices, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 3973

At the request of Mr. LEVIN, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 3973 intended to be proposed to S. 3217, an original bill to promote the financial stability of the

United States by improving accountability and transparency in the financial system, to end “too big to fail”, to protect the American taxpayer by ending bailouts, to protect consumers from abusive financial services practices, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 3974

At the request of Mr. LEVIN, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 3974 intended to be proposed to S. 3217, an original bill to promote the financial stability of the United States by improving accountability and transparency in the financial system, to end “too big to fail”, to protect the American taxpayer by ending bailouts, to protect consumers from abusive financial services practices, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 3975

At the request of Mr. LEVIN, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 3975 intended to be proposed to S. 3217, an original bill to promote the financial stability of the United States by improving accountability and transparency in the financial system, to end “too big to fail”, to protect the American taxpayer by ending bailouts, to protect consumers from abusive financial services practices, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 3977

At the request of Mr. LEVIN, the names of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED) and the Senator from Arizona (Mr. MCCAIN) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 3977 intended to be proposed to S. 3217, an original bill to promote the financial stability of the United States by improving accountability and transparency in the financial system, to end “too big to fail”, to protect the American taxpayer by ending bailouts, to protect consumers from abusive financial services practices, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 3978

At the request of Mr. JOHNSON, the names of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CONRAD), the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS) and the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. COBURN) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 3978 intended to be proposed to S. 3217, an original bill to promote the financial stability of the United States by improving accountability and transparency in the financial system, to end “too big to fail”, to protect the American taxpayer by ending bailouts, to protect consumers from abusive financial services practices, and for other purposes.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. AKAKA:

S. 3348. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for the treatment of documents that express disagreement with decisions of the

Board of Veterans' Appeals and that are misfiled with the Board within 120 days of such decisions as motions for reconsideration of such decisions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

Mr. AKAKA. Mr. President, as Chairman of the Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs, I am introducing legislation today to protect the rights of appeal by claimants before the United States Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims when claimants erroneously file a document with the Department of Veterans Affairs and the document is not transmitted to the court in a timely fashion.

Under current law, section 7266 of title 38, United States Code, a veteran or other claimant who seeks to have a decision of the Board of Veterans' Appeals reviewed by the U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims must “file a notice of appeal with the court within 120 days after the date” on which the board mails its decision to the veteran or other claimant.

This measure would respond to a problem identified in a recent decision of the court in the case of Posey v. Shinseki, decided April 23, 2010. In that case, a veteran sent a document purporting to be an appeal to the court to a VA regional office. The document was not forwarded to the court within the 120 day period. VA sought to have the appeal dismissed as untimely filed. However, the court found that the document qualified as a motion for reconsideration by the board.

Judge Lawrence B. Hagel authored a concurring opinion in which he expressed concern with the number of cases in which a claimant's right to appeal to the court had been thwarted because the Secretary had held correspondence from veterans seeking to appeal to the court until after the time for filing had expired. The Secretary would then argue that the claimant's appeal to the court was untimely and should be dismissed. Some of those cases resulted in dismissal of the appeal. Judge Hagel suggested that this problem could be addressed by legislation treating a document as a motion for reconsideration by the Board if it was received by the Secretary and not forwarded to the Court within the 120 day period.

I do not believe that VA has acted deliberately to impede any veteran's right to appeal to the court. However, the failure of VA to notify a veteran promptly of the filing error or to forward the document to the court should not be allowed to deprive a veteran of the right to have a case reviewed on appeal. The bill I am introducing would only apply in those cases where no appeal is filed with the court within the 120-day time period and the board or other VA agency has received during that same 120-day period a document expressing disagreement with the board decision.

I urge our colleagues to support this bill so that any veteran who attempts

to appeal a decision of the Board in a timely fashion does not have his or her attempt thwarted by an error.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the text of the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 3348

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. TREATMENT OF CERTAIN MISFILED DOCUMENTS AS MOTIONS FOR RECONSIDERATION OF DECISIONS BY BOARD OF VETERANS' APPEALS.

Section 7103 of title 38, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsection (c) as subsection (d); and

(2) by inserting after subsection (b) the following new subsection (c):

“(c)(1) Except as provided in paragraph (2), if a person adversely affected by a final decision of the Board, who has not filed a notice of appeal with the United States Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims under section 7266(a) of this title within the period set forth in that section, files a document with the Board or the agency of original jurisdiction referred to in section 7105(b)(1) of this title that expresses disagreement with such decision not later than 120 days after the date of such decision, such document shall be treated as a motion for reconsideration of such decision under subsection (a).

“(2) A document described in paragraph (1) shall not be treated as a motion for reconsideration of the decision under paragraph (1) if—

“(A) the Board or the agency of original jurisdiction referred to in paragraph (1)—

“(i) receives the document described in paragraph (1);

“(ii) determines that such document expresses an intent to appeal the decision to the United States Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims; and

“(iii) forwards such document to the United States Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims; and

“(B) the United States Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims receives such document within the period set forth by section 7266(a) of this title.”.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 521—COMMEMORATING AND CELEBRATING THE LIVES OF DEPUTY SHERIFF STEPHEN MICHAEL GALLAGHER, JR., OFFICER TIMOTHY Q. BRENTON, OFFICER TINA G. GRISWOLD, OFFICER RONALD WILBUR OWENS II, SERGEANT MARK JOSEPH RENNINGER, OFFICER GREGORY JAMES RICHARDS, AND DEPUTY SHERIFF WALTER KENT MUNDELL, JR. WHO GAVE THEIR LIVES IN THE SERVICE OF THE PEOPLE OF WASHINGTON STATE IN 2009

Mrs. MURRAY (for herself and Ms. CANTWELL) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 521

Whereas law enforcement officers throughout Washington State conduct themselves in